The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

EXCITER

November 2007 Issue No. 440

LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS:

- **The RARS General Meeting is the 1st Tuesday of each month.**
- **The RARS net meets every night @ 8 pm on 146.64.**
- **The RARS Technical and Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 pm or following the RARS net.**
- **RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.**

IN THIS ISSUE:

About RARS	2
President's Corner	3
Duke Energy & BPL	5
RARS Minutes	6
Amateur Radio Nets	10

RARS Family Staffs North Carolina State Fair Red Cross Communications Center

Article by Chuck Littlewood K4HF NCSF Ops Coordinator

Above: October 4th Operator's Orientation Session taught by Bernard Blackmon W4BRB and Gary Pearce KN4AQ. Below: Al Nickle KE4IHX and Lee Rogers WB4DRJ at the Red Cross Radio Center at the fairgrounds.

The 2007 Red Cross Communications Center was, again, successfully manned by RARS members and friends. From Friday, October 12 through Sunday, October 21, the staff covered 60 shift assignments. The Red Cross and RARS thank the following folks who participated: Al Nickle, KE4IHX; Ashby Spratley, W5PGX; Benard Blackmon, W4BRB; Bill McClymont, W1REP; Bob Wells, KI4VTA; Bruce Buck, KC4UQN; David Fontaine, KI4ZEF; Gary Pearce, KN4AQ; Jack Albright, KI4YXK; Jim McRight, KB4BZ; John Snellen, AI4RT; Larry Holt, KG4FIQ; Lee Rogers, WB4DRJ; Matt Jones, KI4ZIB; Maury Cupitt, WW4MC; Phillip Jones, KG4IVD; Robin Lane, KI4LEC; Rod Gilvey, AB4RG; Rod Thomson, KI4LSN; Jackie Seamster; Tina Washburn; and April and Kerrell Watts, W4KGL. Many of the new staff enjoyed the experience and are ready to do it again next year!

Above: Maury Cubitt WW4MC and Ashby Spratley W5PGX at the Red Cross Radio Center at the Fairgrounds. Below: The additional training session on October 6th.

RARS Officers

President:
Selene Montgomery
KG4RMT
919.577.1254
kg4rmt@earthlink.net

Vice-President:
Richard Kelly-Crapse
KB4TKQ
919.577.6290
rwcrapse@att.com

Secretary:
Dick Orander
KD4ISC
919.469.5322
kd4isc@arrl.net

Treasurer:
Greg Seamster
KE4PAX
919.859.0029
ke4pax@arrl.net

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Due for regular licensed amateurs are $18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay $5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are $12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are $9 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or the RARS website (RARS.org).

The *Exciter*

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcomes articles, advertising, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

Editor:
Courtney Enzor
KI4HOS
courtney_enzor@yahoo.com

President's Corner

Column by Selene Montgomery KG4RMT, RARS President

Summer may be over, but the amateur radio hobby is never out of season.

September and October are always busy months for ham radio activity in this area. Hamfests include Shelby, Virginia Beach, and Maysville. Plus, there are lots of public service opportunities, such as the MS Bike Tour in New Bern, the many charity walks/runs in the Raleigh/Durham area, the Red Cross Communications Center work, and the JOTA event. Many RARS members help with these events and I want to thank them for their time and efforts.

There are still hamfests and public service opportunities to come. For the latest information, listen to the net announcements and check the calendars on rars.org and hampublicservice.org.

The RARS auction was held at the October meeting. There were lots of interesting items for sale and everyone seemed to have a good time.

Mark your calendar for the RARS Christmas gathering on December 4th. This is a great family event with good food, conversation, and entertainment.

RARS General Meeting

Date: First Tuesday of each month

Location: Forest Hills Baptist Church
201 Dixie Trail
Raleigh, NC 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 pm.
The meeting officially starts at 7:30 pm.

There's always something going on when you're a ham!

RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family — feel free to bring your little ones!

Golden Corral @ 6129 Glenwood Avenue in Raleigh. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

VE Testing

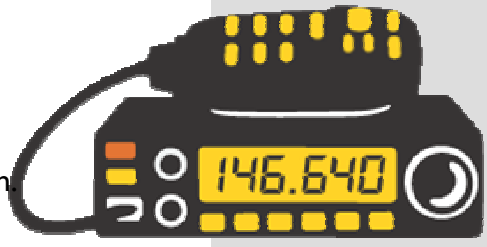
The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSfest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.13 (82.5 PL)
146.64
444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 pm on the 146.64. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check-in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.



New RARS Members

John Fiorentino	W2RDU
Barbara Frantz	No License
Don Frantz, Sr.	KI4ZWP
Paul Jarmul	KI4YXR
John Millsaps	KI4YXU
Bob Young	KI4ZNM

Hamfest Calendar

November 10	Myrtle Beach Hamfest Myrtle Beach, SC
November 18	Jarsfest Benson, NC
December 1	GAARC Swap-Fest Gastonia, NC
January 12	Winston-Salem FirstFest Winston-Salem, NC

Dates courtesy of *SERA Repeater Journal* and other sources. If you would like your event listed in the *Exciter*, please contact the Editor.

RARS Birthdays

Jay	KM4EP	10/2
Dave	K4SAN	10/2
Rod	AB4RG	10/5
Dale	W4AUV	10/5
Paul	KI4YXR	10/6
Kathleen	KA2SBC	10/6
Mike	K4PSP	10/9
Betty	KE4NDR	10/10
Chris	KI4MMV	10/10
Frank	KY4W	10/11
Richard	KB4TKQ	10/15
Joey	KE4DRJ	10/21
Gary	KN4AQ	10/22
Curt	W4CP	10/23
Ric	KI4PVC	10/25
Cecil	KG4OQC	10/26
Mike	W0MDS	10/26
Joe	WA4GIR	11/2
George	WA4EKJ	11/5
Carroll	KD4JH	11/7
Jeff	AC4ZO	11/8
Jennifer	KG4IYQ	11/14
Joshua	KF4ZXK	11/15
Glenn	WA4LHE	11/16
Eric	W3COP	11/18
Rolf	K8SL	11/19
Paul	KI4VVF	11/21
Scott	KI4OCF	11/24
Terri	N4ZUD	11/25
Ray	KC4JWK	11/26
Ken	AB4RQ	11/30
Clare	N2RJB	11/30

September 2007 RARS Net Reports

RARS Two Meter Traffic/Ragchew Net
Check-ins: 401
Traffic: 37/30
Minutes: 651
Sessions: 30

Special Interest Nets
Check-ins: 64
Minutes: 420
Sessions: 14

Upcoming RARS Programs

November: Report on the ARRL Teacher's Institute by Virginia Enzor NC4VA. There will also be **walk-in VE Testing** at this meeting.

December: Annual RARS Christmas Party

Duke Energy "Moving Away from BPL Projects"

Article by Tim Slay N4IB, ARRL NC Section Mangager
Reprinted from Tim Slay's ARRN NC News Summary

In an article in the Sept 17 issue of "Electric Utility Week" Matt Smith, Duke's director of technology development, stated Duke Energy is "shifting away from BPL" to focus on other technologies to enhance utility grid operations. Duke currently has a BPL deployment in south Charlotte. The article stated that Duke at one point planned to provide broadband service to as many as 15,000 customers in its Charlotte BPL pilot, but it never reached that many, and even where it does have BPL equipment on its wires customers do not have broadband access any longer. The equipment is being used by the utility but it will be used in concert with wireless communications systems Duke will install over time as it makes other grid investments. Another Duke spokesman stated "We're investing a lot of money in advanced meters and moving to wireless technology is a better fit for us" than BPL. The article stated that Duke will keep the existing BPL equipment in place and supplement it with wireless communication devices to be installed on certain equipment. Smith stated that "Duke did not do a side-by-side comparison of the costs of BPL and wireless but because wireless technology has been around longer the cost probably is lower and the equipment is more "robust" and less likely to experience failures."

Gary Pearce KN4AQ, adds: I've been observing Duke Power's BPL system in Charlotte for several years when visiting my in-laws Mac, W4PVT, and Anne, KF4ZWI. They live just up the road from the "BPL Zone" and are in the area that Duke was about to expand into before it pulled the plug. Duke experimented with several vendors, so I got to hear several "sounds" of BPL and see how they occupied the spectrum. Some used almost everything from about 4 MHz to near 30 MHz, everywhere. Some used smaller slices, maybe 6 MHz wide, with different slices of spectrum in use every few blocks.

All of them attempted to notch the ham bands, with varying degrees of success. When parked right under the lines, I could always hear some BPL signal inside ham bands – some times pretty weak, but sometimes pretty strong.

(continued on page 6)

Below: Duke Power BPL box on a pole.

Duke Energy "Moving Away from BPL Projects" (con't)

Outside the ham bands the signals often reached S9+20 or more. Most of the neighborhoods served by BPL had underground lines, and there the signals were much weaker, often inaudible from the street. How would those signals affect hams living there? Alas, we don't know. There were no hams in the small area of the trial. Mac's QTH was in an underground power area, and I was looking forward – sort of – to listening for BPL from his station.

The last time I was in Charlotte, last spring, the BPL signals were much weaker then I'd ever heard them. Perhaps they were in the process of pulling the plug then. I'm not sure what to make of the statement that Duke will keep the equipment in place. It didn't cover enough area to be useful in managing their grid, though it might help them test that function while considering a wider deployment for a more limited use. Company-only BPL would not need to use as much spectrum, and would present less potential interference, because it wouldn't need to carry as much data as a "full service ISP" system would. I wouldn't be surprised to hear that they abandoned it completely in the next few years.

Most RARS members will remember that Progress Energy tried a BPL trial in the Fuquay-Varina area in 2005, but decided not to pursue it. Several area hams, myself included, filed complaints about the signals we documented while mobile in the area, leading to an FCC investigation that declared our complaints unfounded. We found the FCC's conclusions incomplete, inconsistent and highly questionable. Later, the FCC declared that all BPL complaints from mobiles would be invalid because mobiles could just drive away from the interference. The ARRL is fighting some of the FCC's BPL conclusions in court.

The ARRL has found that some implementations of BPL cause little to no interference to Amateur Radio. Only a few large cities have anything near a full-scale system operating. There are still many trials going on, but BPL is a long way from widespread acceptance by the power industry, while other Internet distribution methods, like Wi-Max, are getting a lot more press.

To me, BPL – a system that puts HF energy on wires strung for miles – never seemed like a good idea, even if the engineers could limit its effect inside the ham bands. It has never come close to fulfilling the promise of providing affordable Internet service to rural areas. I wouldn't be unhappy to see it abandoned completely.

Raleigh and Wake Country Severe & Winter Weather 2007

Saturday, November 10, 2007

American Red Cross

9am–12:30pm: SKYWARN Storm Spotter & NC Winter Weather

The National Weather Service will present a Severe Thunderstorm and Winter Weather Spotter training workshop.

The following topics will be covered:

- Thunderstorm development and severity.
- Recognition of storm/cloud elements.
- Anticipating storm motion, intensity, and severity based on cloud structure.
- Typical winter weather patterns resulting in snow and ice storms.
- Local challenges of forecasting snow, ice, and impacts.
- Review of past winter weather events in Central NC.

There is no cost to attend!

Location: Triangle Chapter of the American Red Cross
100 Peartree Lane
Raleigh, NC
(near WakeMed hospital)

Please register in advance by emailing Virginia Enzor (nc4va@nc.rr.com).

TRIANGLE AREA CHAPTER
Serving: Wake, Warren, Franklin, Johnston Counties of North Carolina.

For more information, contact
Jeff Orrock (National Weather Service)
Jeff.Orrock@noaa.gov
919-515-8209 ext. 223
or
Virginia Enzor (Central Carolina SKYWARN Coordinator)
nc4va@nc.rr.com

SKYWARN

Board Meeting - September 2007

Minutes of the RARS Board of Directors Meeting for September 2007

The Board of Directors meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on September 18, 2007 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail.

Attendance: Board – Selene Montgomery KG4RMT, Hank Montgomery K4HM, Rick Kelly-Crapse KB4TKQ, Chuck Littlewood K4HF, Charles Swindell WB4DCM, Gary Pearce KN4AQ, Virginia Enzor NC4VA, Courtney Enzor KI4HOS, Rod Thomson KI4LSN and Dick Orander KD4ISC.

President Selene Montgomery KG4RMT called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

On a motion from Charlie WB4DCM and second by Hank K4HM, the minutes for the July and August meetings were approved as presented.

Officers' Reports

President's report – Selene KG4RMT advised she would make comments as appropriate throughout the meeting.

Vice President's report – Selene KG4RMT and Rick KB4TKQ advised that next month's meeting will be the annual auction. There will be an early start time of 7 pm.

Treasurer's report – Selene reported on behalf of Greg Seamster KE4PAX that there are 211 RARS members. The club now has a new storage area and the contents from the old location have been relocated. Greg still needs to follow up with Virginia NC4VA to provide reimbursements to the recent Tech class youth from the donation made by the Dick Bitner W8HYD Benevolent Fund.

Committee Reports

Education – Virginia NC4VA reported that 7 students from the recent Technician class are eligible for reimbursement for their class and exam fees courtesy of the Dick Bitner Fund. She reported the MARA net is still taking place on Sunday nights. Virginia also offered to provide a program on her recent ARRL teacher scholarship trip for the November general club meeting.

Exciter – Courtney KI4HOS advised articles are always needed for the newsletter. A new deadline for Exciter submissions was established and shall be the Monday before the board meeting.

Nominating Committee – Chuck K4HF reported that there have been good results in locating candidates for the open board and committee positions. An announcement of the nominees will be made at the October general meeting.

Webmaster – Hank K4HM advised he has been coordinating updates with Steve Worley KB4HDQ. Hank reported that he has not yet completed his Dick Bitner Memorial Fund follow up. The bank information on the website is no longer valid. He will follow up with

Board Meeting - September 2007

Molly Bitner on how to handle any future donations for this fund. A brief discussion about creating a silent key page off of our website was discussed. The idea was tabled for additional thought.

Public Service – Dick KD4ISC reported on the recent ham participation at the New Bern MS Bike Tour. There are several events taking place throughout September, October and November that Bill Cole KG4CXY and the Carolina Helping Hams are coordinating. Chuck K4HF advised that sign-ups for the Red Cross radio operators are going well. He thanked Hank K4HM for his help in updating the RARS website for this event. An announcement concerning Red Cross training will be made soon.

Hamfest – Hank K4HM advised he has been working with the fairgrounds officials to try to resolve future RARSfest dates. The first meeting of the hamfest committee will take place on this coming Monday. Hank noted that the ARRL has been pushing youth activities at hamfests. He expressed interest in finding out what the league can offer RARSfest in providing for youth activities. After a brief discussion, he and Chuck K4HF agreed to talk outside the meeting to follow up with the ARRL. Our hamfest will be on Saturday, March 29.

Old Business

Selene KG4RMT reported that she has received the contact information for the person with the estate items discussed at the last meeting. She has not been able to make direct contact with the donor of these items and will follow up.

There is no update on plans for a club picnic. Rick KB4TKQ advised this may have to wait until next year.

Rod KI4LSN provided a brief update on the upcoming JOTA activities. There has been a 60 scout limit on the registration for this event. The radio merit badge will be the focus of the day's activities.

New Business

None

General Comments

Dick KD4ISC reported he has made updates to the public service points portion of the RARS webpage. He also mentioned a suggestion that the points page be broken into a current year page and a cumulative events page. This suggestion will be passed on to the webmaster.

Courtney KI4HOS requested that information about hamfest schedules be emailed to her for inclusion in the Exciter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Submitted by Dick Orander KD4ISC, Secretary

General Meeting - October 2007

Minutes of the RARS General Meeting for October 2007

The general meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on October 2, 2007 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail.

President Selene Montgomery KG4RMT called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Visitors were asked to introduce themselves and were welcomed to the meeting.

Selene KG4RMT advised that the minutes from the September meeting were posted in the Exciter. She asked if any corrections were needed and received no comments.

There was no Treasurer's report provided at the meeting.

Announcements:

- The next RARS dinner will be on Tuesday, October 9 at 6:30pm at the Golden Corral on Glenwood Avenue. All are invited to attend.
- Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm. All are invited to attend.
- Hamfests: Maysville on October 14, Pfafftown on October 20, Sumter on October 27, Myrtle Beachfest on November 10 and JARSfest on November 18.

Dick Orander KD4ISC reported on the recent MS Tour public service activity. Approximately 14 hams from our area worked with the New Bern area hams to provide communications support for this event which included 1800 registered cyclists and raised 1.2 million dollars for the MS Society. He asked those who participated to stand and receive a round of applause. Dick announced that there are still several public service activities on the calendar. Members should visit the Carolina Helping Hams website (www.hampublicservice.org) for more information.

Rod Thomson KI4LSN announced that he and wife Chris KI4MMV are organizing the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) for local scouts. The event will take place on Saturday, October 20 from 8 am until 5 pm at the Catholic church located off of Raleigh Road in Apex. On the air contacts and teaching the skills needed for the radio merit badge will be the focus of this event. Those interested in helping with JOTA should contact Rod at rodthomson@yahoo.com .

RARSfest will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008. The hamfest committee has already started its meetings and planning. Anyone interested in helping the committee should contact Hank Montgomery K4HM.

Chuck Littlewood K4HF reported that all of the Red Cross communication support positions for the State Fair have been filled. Mandatory training sessions will be held this Thursday at 7:30 pm and on Saturday at 3:00 pm at the Red Cross center at Regency Park in Cary.

General Meeting - October 2007

Chuck provided the report from the club's nominating committee. The following members are being nominated for next month's elections:

Officers (2-year term)
- President – Selene Montgomery KG4RMT
- Secretary – Charles Swindell WB4DCM

Board Members (1-year term)
- Public Information Officer – Gary Pearce KN4AQ
- RARS 2008 Hamfest Chair – Hank Montgomery K4HM
- RARS Exciter Editor – Courtney Enzor KI4HOS
- RARS Net Manager – Mary Holtschneider KG4OQA
- Public Service – John Snellen AI4RT
- At-Large Director – Steve Ferrarini KJ4BX
- At-Large Director – Rod Thomson KI4LSN
- FM Repeater Chair – Gary Pearce KN4AQ
- W4DW / W4RNC Trustee – Jeff Wittich AC4ZO
- ARRL Liaison – Chuck Littlewood K4HF
- Education Director – Virginia Enzor NC4VA

Committer Chairmen (1-year term)
- RARS 2008 Field Day Chair – Neal Fisher N4HAF
- RARS Volunteer Exam Coordinators – Liz White KO4CK and Joe White WA4GIR
- RARS Hospitality Chair – Mary Jo Littlewood K4MJL
- RARS Webmaster – Steve Worley KB4HDQ

Chuck then thanked Hank Montgomery K4HM and Dick Orander KD4ISC for their work with the nominating committee. Members were reminded that nominations from the floor would take place prior to the elections at the November meeting.

The new deadline to submit articles for the Exciter will be the Monday before the board meeting.

The November meeting program will be presented by Virginia Enzor NC4VA on her recent participation in the ARRL Teacher Institute.

There were no door prizes awarded at the meeting.

The floor was given to Rick Kelly-Crapse KB4TKQ who served as auctioneer for the annual club auction.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.
Attendance: 76
Submitted by Dick Orander KD4ISC, RARS Secretary

Amateur Radio Nets

The RARS Technical & Trader's net is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.64 after the 8 pm RARS net.

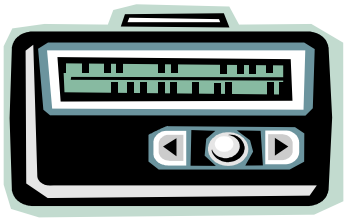
The VOIP Hurricane net is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to www.voipwx.net.

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 net** every Monday night at 7:30 pm. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Costal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit www.carolina440.net.

CAROLINA 440
UHF Link System
www.carolina440.net

Join us every evening at 8 pm on the 146.64 repeater for the **RARS Two Meter net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcomed to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **PCTN (Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 pm on the 146.88. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check-in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 machine with a PL tone of 82.5.



Join the **Tarheel Short Wave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG) net** on Monday evenings @ 9 pm on 146.64. We discuss *all* areas of radio monitoring and welcome your logs! We also have a SWL/SIG meeting on the third Monday of the month in addition to our regular net.

Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday at 9:15 pm on the 146.88 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net.

Upcoming CCS Information nets include:

November 6: "2007-08 Winter Weather Outlook" with NWS General Forecaster Phil Badgett.

The **Mercury Amateur Radio Association Southeast 2 Meter Net** meets at 9 pm every Sunday evening on the 145.13 repeater (tone 82.5). All stations are invited to participate in this net. MARA provides emergency communication support to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The purpose of this net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet.

MERCURY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MARA

The **Wake County ARES net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.88 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of Emergency Communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. www.wakeares.org.

The RARS
Exciter
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc
PO Box 17124
Raleigh, North Carolina 27619

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
RALEIGH, NC
PERMIT NO. 2130

Public Service Opportunities

To volunteer for an event or get more information, visit the Carolina Helping Hams website at www.hampublicservice.org.

- Oct 26th: The Habitat for Humanity Family Fun ride. Need about 2-3 volunteers for this new event.
- Oct 27th: The Habitat for Humanity Halloween 100. Celebrate the coming holiday by chasing 2-wheeled spooks across Durham/Chatham counties. Could use as many as 7 operators for this event.
- Oct 27th: Red Cross Generator Posse. Sheriff Mike N3YEP and his deputies will be firing up the smokers – er, generators, at the Wake American Red Cross Chapter. Come on out and help the Posse keep those power generatin' doggies in shape for hurricane season.
- Nov 4th: The City of Oaks Marathon. The old Raleigh marathon has returned under a new logo! Still working out the details on this one, but we're sure to need 15-20 folks to make this a success. Stay tuned for updates.

And remember - Ham Radio ***IS*** public service!